(d) The total number of gate passes issued to contract labourers and coverage under EPF, plant-wise is as under:-

Plant	No. of gate passes issued	No. of contract labourers covered under EPF
Bhilai Steel Plant	2516	All
Durgapur Steel Plant	2362	All
Rourkela Steel Plant	3217	All
Bokaro Steel Plant	2758	All
IISCO Steel Plant	4204	All
Alloy Steel Plant	276	All
Salem Steel Plant	122	All
Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant	526	All
SAIL Refractory Unit	1074	All
TOTAL	17055	All

Ship-breaking facility at Alang

1828. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been commissioned by Government to scientifically improve the ship breaking facility at Alang;

(b) if so, the details and the recommendations thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to develop Alang as a modern ship breaking facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP) : (a) to (d) As per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of 17-02-2006, a Central Technical Committee (CTC) under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests was set up to regulate various activities of ship breaking industries. The CTC gave its recommendations touching all aspects of ship breaking. The recommendations are operative by virtue of the Supreme Court Order dated 6-9-2007. Pursuant to the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, a series of measures have been taken for attenuating the hazards of ship breaking and for improving the working conditions at ship-breaking yards. Consequently, detailed protocols and

procedures have been put in place for scrutinizing ships arriving for breaking and for handling and disposing of hazardous materials and wastes. The provisions of existing rules take adequate care of the hazards of ship breaking. Further, as and when any shortcomings are noticed, remedial steps are taken.

Expansion plan of steel PSUs

1829. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether steel PSUs have embarked on an ambitious expansion plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made so far; and

(d) how far Jharkhand figures in this expansion plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has undertaken modernisation and expansion of its plants *viz.* Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) in Chhattisgarh, Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) in Jharkhand, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) in Orissa, Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) and IISCO Steel Plant (ISP) in West Bengal and Salem Steel Plant (SSP) in Tamil Nadu. SAIL envisages increasing the installed capacity of hot metal from 13.82 million tonne per annum to 23.46 million tonne per annum in the current phase. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) in Andhra Pradesh is implementing expansion plans to augment its liquid steel production capacity from 3 million tonnes to 6.3 million tonnes per annum.

(c) The orders for major packages of expansion of ISP and SSP of SAIL as well as expansion of VSP, RINL have been placed. Part packages of expansion of BSP, RSP, BSL and DSP have been placed. These ordered packages are under various stages of execution.

(d) The expansion plan of SAIL includes modernisation and expansion of its integrated Steel plant at Bokaro in the State of Jharkhand. Modernisation and expansion of Bokaro Steel Plant envisages increase in hot metal production capacity from 4.59 million tonne per annum to 5.77 million tonne per annum in the current phase.

Revival of steel industry to check job losses

1830. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking fresh measures to check job losses and revive manufacturing sectors in the steel industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the targets fixed for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP) : (a) and (b) There is no loss of job in any of the public sector steel units under the administrative control of the Ministry of Steel. On the other hand, the public sector steel units, Steel Authority of India